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PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the General Assembly the final report of the Coordinator of the International Year of the World's Indigenous People (see annex), in accordance with paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 48/133 of 20 December 1993.

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FINAL REPORT OF THE COORDINATOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, 1993

CONTENTS

		Paragraphs	Page
INTRODUCTION		1 - 3	3
I.	PROCLAMATION AND OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE	4 - 9	3
II.	PROGRAMME UNDERTAKEN BY THE COORDINATOR	10 - 16	4
III.	VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE	17 - 23	5
IV.	MAJOR UNITED NATIONS MEETINGS RELATING TO THE YEAR	24 - 39	6
V.	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' ACTIVITIES	40 - 47	9
VI.	ACTIVITIES OF THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL SECTOR AND OTHERS	48 - 53	10
VII.	ACTIVITIES OF GOVERNMENTS	54 - 66	11
VIII.	RESPONSE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM	67 - 71	14
IX.	CONCLUSIONS	72 - 79	15

Annexes

I.	Summary of points and suggestions made during the Technical Meeting, 9-11 March 1992	18
II.	Voluntary Fund for the International Year for the World's Indigenous People	32

INTRODUCTION

1. The present final report on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People is prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 47/75 of 14 December 1992. In paragraph 12 of that resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the activities developed and the results achieved during the International Year.

2. An interim report on the International Year (E/CN.4/1994/AC.4/TM.4/2) was submitted by the Coordinator for the International Year to the Technical Meeting on the International Year and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People convened in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/128 of 17 December 1991. The Technical Meeting was held in Geneva from 20 to 22 July 1994 and its report will be submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session.

3. This report includes the most recent information about the activities launched during the International Year provided to the Secretariat by the participating parties to its programmes and projects, and the conclusions that can be drawn from those activities.

I. PROCLAMATION AND OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

4. The General Assembly proclaimed 1993 as the International Year for the World's Indigenous People in its resolution 45/164 of 18 December 1990.

5. The programme of activities for the Year was adopted by the General Assembly as an annex to resolution 46/128. The Assembly recommended that indigenous people should play an important role in the planning, implementation and evaluation of projects which might affect them and that the General Assembly should designate the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights as the Coordinator for the Year.

6. In the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Coordinator for the Year to solicit the cooperation of other elements of the United Nations, system, including financial and development institutions and assigned responsibility for implementing the activities of the Year to the Centre for Human Rights in conjunction with the International Labour Organization. The theme "Indigenous people - a new partnership" was adopted.

7. In its resolution 47/75, the General Assembly confirmed its proclamation of the Year. The following year, it requested, in paragraph 5 of its resolution 48/133 of 20 December 1993, that the conclusions of the three technical meetings be included in the final report of the Coordinator to the Assembly.

8. The objectives of the International Year for the World's Indigenous People are stated in General Assembly resolution 45/164 in which 1993 is proclaimed as the International Year for the World's Indigenous People, "with a view to

strengthening international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous communities in areas such as human rights, the environment, development, education and health".

9. A major objective of the Year was implicit in the theme adopted by the General Assembly for the Year, "Indigenous people - a new partnership", which encouraged States and the international community to build new relationships with indigenous peoples.

II. PROGRAMME UNDERTAKEN BY THE COORDINATOR

10. Information about the activities undertaken in 1993 by the Coordinator for the International Year within the Centre for Human Rights is contained in paragraphs 69-82 of the Coordinator's interim report on the Year (E/CN.4/1994/AC.4/TM.4/2). The conclusions of the Technical Meeting on the International Year, held in Geneva from 9 to 11 March 1992 and reconvened from 3 to 5 August 1992 and from 14 to 16 July 1993, are reproduced in annex I to the present report. Complete reports of those meetings are available in documents E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM.8, E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM.2/3 and E/CN.4/1994/86 respectively.

11. The aim of the activities and projects that were undertaken by the Coordinator, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/164, was to strengthen international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people. For that purpose, the Coordinator considered it important to improve communications between the Secretariat and governmental departments responsible for indigenous affairs and indigenous peoples themselves. It was also felt necessary that activities aimed at the promotion of awareness among the general public about the situation of indigenous peoples be encouraged and assisted. Another goal was to provide information to indigenous peoples about international human rights standards and the United Nations system in general.

12. In the course of 1994, the Coordinator continued to receive many requests for information and documentation concerning the International Year and the situation of indigenous peoples world wide. The volume of correspondence and telephone inquiries shows that the interest of the public in the issue of indigenous peoples has not decreased after the conclusion of the International Year.

13. In March 1994, the Coordinator requested Governments, United Nations agencies, indigenous organizations and non-governmental organizations to forward information to him concerning the activities they had carried out in 1993 to commemorate the Year. Several reports were received following this request. Those which were not included in the interim report by the Coordinator are summarized in the appropriate sections of the present document.

14. The Centre for Human Rights was also responsible for the organization of the meetings related to the indigenous peoples' mandate during 1994: the Technical Meeting on the International Year and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, which was held from 20 to 22 July 1994, and the twelfth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, from 25 to 29 July 1994.

15. An important activity of the Secretariat in 1994 was the administration of the Voluntary Fund for the International Year. Some late contributions were received until May 1994, and most of the grants to indigenous organizations were made available only during 1994. There is still an important flow of correspondence concerning the Voluntary Fund between the Centre for Human Rights and indigenous organizations whose applications for a grant were successful.

16. As part of its coordinating role within the United Nations system, the Centre for Human Rights held an informal inter-agency meeting in July 1994, to review the activities of the Year, consider practical questions relating to the exchange of information and discuss proposals for the forthcoming International Decade.

III. VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

17. In its resolution 45/164, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to accept and administer voluntary contributions from Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for the purpose of funding programme activities for the International Year. Detailed information concerning the setting up and administration of the Voluntary Fund until April 1994 is contained in the Coordinator's interim report (E/CN.4/1994/AC.4/TM.4/2, paras. 101-113).

18. According to the estimates of the Coordinator, a total of US$ 712,220.29 had been contributed to the Voluntary Fund by Governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals as of July 1994. Contributions were received from the following Governments: Australia, Canada, Denmark, Dominica, France, Greece, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. Contributions were also received from the following non-governmental organizations, institutions or individuals: Shimin Gaikou, Marymont College, Mesa Redonda, Oddfellows, Children's World, the estate of Olive Gilzean, United Nations Staff Gala (Geneva), Abdelhak Chaieb and the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio.

19. A total of 346 projects, valued at US$ 54,485,308, were registered by the Secretariat between July 1992 and May 1994 from 53 countries. The Coordinator approved grants of up to US$ 15,000 for 37 small-scale projects totalling US$ 331,079. A grant of US$ 43,000 was approved for the Goodwill Ambassador for the International Year, Ms. Rigoberta Menchú Tum, to assist with the travel expenses of indigenous representatives invited to the Second Summit of Indigenous Peoples held in Oaxtepec, Mexico, in October 1994. A description of contributions and expenditure of the Voluntary Fund is included in annex II to the present report.

20. In addition to the Fund, the Government of Luxembourg and a Swiss non-governmental organization "Incomindios" assisted nine projects which had been sent into the Fund, for a total of US$ 154,535. A private company, the Body Shop, also contributed to a health project in Brazil which had been submitted to the Fund.

21. The Secretariat developed draft guidelines which were included as annex I to the note by the Secretariat (E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM.2/2) for the reconvened Technical Meeting held in August 1992, and were examined and accepted by the delegations (E/CN.4/AC.4/TM.2/3). When considering projects to be approved for funding, the Coordinator took those guidelines into consideration, besides such issues as equity of distribution regionally and realistic financial limits.

22. The six major programme areas identified at the first technical meeting were human rights, development and environment, education and culture, health, self-management and self-government and public events and information. There was a concentration of requests associated with practical physical development projects. Most of these projects were to develop agricultural enterprises or physical infrastructure in communities, which indicates that indigenous people are seeking to improve their basic living conditions. This analysis suggests that indigenous people, particularly in developing countries, are deeply concerned with the daily struggle for survival, and basic education.

23. As indigenous peoples tended to see the Voluntary Fund as a development fund, there were comparatively few requests for purely human rights projects, and projects associated with self-management and other rights. However, as the lead agency given the mandate of coordinating the programme of activities for the Decade, the Centre for Human Rights will be instrumental in encouraging indigenous peoples to seek funding for projects in the field of human rights during the forthcoming Decade.

IV. MAJOR UNITED NATIONS MEETINGS RELATING TO THE YEAR

24. A number of United Nations meetings with important implications for indigenous peoples were held after the conclusion of the International Year; details of the most significant of these meetings follow.

25. As mentioned in paragraph 10 above, three sessions of the Technical Meeting, provided for in General Assembly resolution 46/128 of 17 December 1991, were held in Geneva from 9 to 11 March 1992, from 3 to 5 August 1992 and from 14 to 16 July 1993. Information about those meetings is contained in paragraphs 126-145 of the Coordinator's interim report.

26. In paragraph 12 of its resolution 46/128, the General Assembly requested the Commission on Human Rights to convene a meeting of participants in the programmes and projects of the International Year, to assess what conclusions could be drawn from the activities. In paragraph 18 of its resolution 48/163, the General Assembly requested that the meeting also consider preparations for the Decade. The Technical Meeting on the International Year and International Decade of the World's Indigenous People was held in Geneva from 20 to 22 July 1994. A complete report of that meeting will be submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session.

27. At the Technical Meeting, many representatives of Governments, United Nations agencies and indigenous peoples' organizations provided information on activities carried out at the national, regional and international levels to

commemorate the Year. A summary of this information is provided in the relevant sections of the present report.

28. At all sessions of the Technical Meeting, the representatives of indigenous peoples confirmed the importance of full consultation with indigenous peoples, at the national, regional and international levels, and of involving them in the planning, management, implementation and evaluation of all projects affecting them.

Twelfth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations

29. The twelfth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations was well attended by indigenous peoples' representatives, including the United Nations Goodwill Ambassador, Mrs. Rigoberta Menchú Tum. Over 790 persons attended the session.

30. The session had a very comprehensive agenda. The participants made comments on the final draft of the declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples agreed upon by the members of the Working Group at its previous session. A summary of those comments was referred to the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in the report of the Working Group meeting (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/30). Other important matters discussed during the session were the review of developments pertaining to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples, the study on treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous populations, proposals for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, the future role of the Working Group and the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous peoples within the United Nations system.

Forty-sixth session of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities

31. Seven resolutions of interest to indigenous peoples, 1994/44, 1994/45, 1994/46, 1994/47, 1994/48, 1994/49 and 1994/50, and one decision 1994/16, were adopted without a vote by the Subcommission at its forty-sixth session held in August 1994.

32. Resolution 1994/44 concerns the relocation of Navajo and Hopi families from northern Arizona in the United States of America and recommends the participation of members of the Navajo Nation and Hopi Tribal Council in court-ordered mediation to seek a peaceful settlement of the situation.

33. By resolution 1994/45, the Subcommission decided to adopt the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples agreed upon by the members of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and to submit it to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-first session, with the request that it consider the draft as expeditiously as possible.

34. In resolution 1994/46, the Subcommission requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, to transmit the report of the Working Group on its twelfth session to indigenous peoples and organizations, Governments and intergovernmental and

non-governmental organizations, as well as to all thematic rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and working groups.

35. By resolution 1994/47, the Subcommission welcomed the proclamation and the goals of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, recommended that it should have an operational focus and that its theme be "Indigenous peoples: a new relationship: partnership in action". It also recommended improving the extent and effectiveness of indigenous participation in planning and implementing the activities of the Decade, including the appointment of indigenous members in a board of trustees created to administer the voluntary fund for the International Decade. Finally, it recommended that the International Day of Indigenous People be observed every year on 9 August, as that date was the anniversary of the first day of the first meeting of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, in 1982.

36. In resolution 1994/48, the Subcommission endorsed the recommendations, principles and guidelines contained in the preliminary report on the protection of the heritage of indigenous people prepared by the Special Rapporteur, Mrs. Erica-Irene Daes, and requested the Secretary-General to make those principles and guidelines available to indigenous peoples' organizations, nations and communities, Governments, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned for their comments.

37. By resolution 1994/49, the Subcommission recommended that the Commission on Human Rights approve the participation of indigenous persons and organizations, without regard to consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, in meetings of higher bodies of the United Nations at which the draft United Nations declaration is discussed.

38. In resolution 1994/50, the Subcommission requested the Secretary-General to invite Governments and indigenous organizations to express their views concerning the possible establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people within the United Nations system and recommended that any future body of that kind play an important role in operational coordination for development, and that it enjoy observer status at all relevant United Nations bodies. It also recommended that the Centre for Human Rights organize a workshop on a possible permanent forum for indigenous people with the participation of representatives of Governments, indigenous organizations and independent experts.

39. Finally, in decision 1994/116, the Subcommission recommended that the Special Rapporteur on treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous populations make all possible efforts to submit his second progress report to the Working Group in 1995, and requested the Secretary-General to give him all assistance necessary to continue his work.

V. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' ACTIVITIES

40. During the Technical Meeting on the International Year and the Decade of the World's Indigenous People, the secretariat received comprehensive information from all over the world about events during the International Year that had been organized by indigenous peoples, or by non-governmental organizations in partnership with indigenous peoples. This information complements the data provided in the Coordinator's interim report (E/CN.4/1994/AC.4/TM.4/2, paras. 160-189).

41. In Australia, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC), the Government's advisory body on indigenous matters, became the coordinating agency for the Year's activities. ATSIC seconded a staff member to work with the Centre for Human Rights for two years in the planning and implementation activities of the International Year. It also established a national advisory committee to enhance the national objectives for the Year and convened an interdepartmental committee to address issues of planning, development and coordination within the Australian public service. Some of the activities developed were the publication and distribution of information kits on the "New partnership", and a regular newsletter, as well as the establishment of a database and the development of a calendar of events. The indigenous peoples from Australia participated actively in major national celebrations. Funds were distributed to appropriate national projects. In cooperation with the Australian Government, ATSIC held conferences and launched research, training and awareness projects.

42. In Hawai'i, the celebrations of the International Year coincided with the centennial observation of the overthrow of the independent nation of Hawai'i. The issue of the year was thus sovereignty. While a Hawaiian Sovereignty Advisory Commission was formed in the legislature of the State of Hawai'i, the Peoples' International Tribunal Hawai'i met to gather evidence about the armed invasion of the archipelago a century earlier and the current disputes over land and resources.

43. In New Zealand, the Partnership Committee was set up to coordinate activities. At the local level, there were art exhibitions, an indigenous film festival, radio programmes, a resource kit for schools, a Maori rugby league festival, dance, theatre, weaving and oral history. The first post-graduate course on indigenous studies was established in 1993. The International Indigenous Spiritual Elders and Peoples Conference was held to share experiences and common problems, following which the Manu Ariki declaration was formulated and a Spiritual Circle of Indigenous Elders was established.

44. Some commemorative events took place in the Asian region. The Grassroots Women Workers' Centre of Taiwan Province of China reported that the organization had focused on the situation of indigenous women working in construction sites in urban areas. A series of talks were undertaken with them to address issues of occupational injuries and health problems. In Japan, the Ainu Association of Hokkaido exhibited films about the Ainu culture, and organized a musical festival and other cultural events. The Asian Conference on the Rights of Indigenous/Tribal Peoples was held in Thailand and adopted a declaration on the rights of Asian indigenous/tribal peoples. In India, indigenous and tribal

peoples formed a national confederation, the Indian Council of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, and organized national workshops to discuss issues such as land dispossession, water resources, forests and culture. Debates were also held on the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples and other international instruments. An international campaign to gain support for autonomous arrangements for the Adivasi ("original peoples") was also launched in Europe.

45. In Central and South America, indigenous peoples carried out many activities. A big meeting of the Nahua nation of Mexico was held in Chilpancingo to discuss the issue of hydroelectric dams. Many indigenous women also met to address the issues of health and recovery of traditional spirituality. In Argentina, a national evaluation meeting was organized by the Indigenous Association of the Republic of Argentina (AIRA) and the University of Santiago del Estero, in which the themes of social marginality, education, legislation, lands, development, health and the inclusion of indigenous rights in the constitutional reform were debated. In Peru, the First Regional Meeting of Andean Women was held coinciding with the launching of the Year. More than 100 indigenous women participated in discussions about education, health and the environment, socio-economic conditions and culture. In the first months of 1994, the Indian Council of South America (CISA) organized some preparatory meetings on the International Decade and the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples.

46. The indigenous peoples of the Circumpolar regions, including Greenland, the Nordic countries, the Russian Federation and Alaska, carried out an impressive programme of activities which was summarized in paragraphs 181-188 of the Coordinator's interim report. The Finno-Ugric Association informed the Technical Meeting that the Year provided an opportunity to examine matters such as indigenous language, traditions, crafts and culture. A seminar on self-management and autonomy had been held and another one, about the Finno-Ugric language, was co-sponsored by UNESCO. In the Russian Federation, an organizing committee had been set up, but received little financial support from the Government.

47. In Africa, the Loita Pastoralists of Kenya celebrated the Year with activities aimed at strengthening their indigenous identity and culture, their territorial rights and traditional land tenure systems, as well as protecting the environment and administering cultural and religious sites. In Morocco, indigenous peoples had struggled for their language rights.

VI. ACTIVITIES OF THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL SECTOR AND OTHERS

48. Some international non-governmental organizations provided additional information about their activities related to the International Year.

49. Public Services International approved a resolution on indigenous peoples at its 25th World Congress, held in Helsinki in August 1993, which called for the promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples to cultural identity, language and self-determination. It urged States to ratify ILO Convention 169 and

encouraged its affiliates to represent the concerns of indigenous peoples at appropriate international forums.

50. In 1992, Amnesty International sponsored a campaign on the indigenous peoples of the Americas, which was expanded in 1993 to include indigenous peoples of other continents. It created a poster with recommendations for the protection of the human rights of indigenous peoples, and distributed information materials. The organization also called on Governments to publish independent national reviews of the extent to which indigenous peoples' fundamental rights are respected. Amnesty International USA has maintained the Indigenous Peoples Urgent Action Network since early 1990 to issue calls for a quick response to human rights violations against any indigenous person or group of people.

51. The Society for Threatened Peoples carried out numerous information activities on indigenous peoples in general, and on the Adivasi peoples of India in particular. Media coverage was assured on the Narmada dam, and plans for workshops on the Adivasi peoples were developed.

52. The Body Shop strengthened ties with indigenous organizations in Australia, Indonesia, Japan and Papua New Guinea. Lazy Monn Studios released an album entitled "Earthrise - The Rainforest Album", which was distributed widely in Europe in 1993 and will be launched simultaneously in the United States and the Russian Federation at the end of 1994. With the profits generated, over 30 projects benefiting indigenous peoples were supported. During the International Decade, another album, a film and a CD-ROM will be produced, with the aim of generating financial benefits for many indigenous peoples around the world. The World Fund for the Protection of Indigenous Cultures has undertaken numerous informative projects on the Naga, the Tuareg population of Mali, and indigenous peoples of Guatemala and Thailand.

53. Some academic institutions also celebrated the International Year. The Association of Political Scientists of South-Kivu for Democratic Action and Education (APOSKI-ADE) of Zaire organized a seminar-cum-workshop on the defence and integration of the pygmy indigenous peoples. McGill University and the Nordic Sami Council organized a workshop entitled "Knowing is governing: traditional knowledge and self-government of northern Aboriginal societies", and the University of Sydney, Australia, published a special issue on the Aborigines and the International Year in its magazine Gazette.

VII. ACTIVITIES OF GOVERNMENTS

54. This section contains information provided by Governments either in written reports submitted to the Secretariat following the request of the Coordinator of March 1994, or orally during the Technical Meeting held in July 1994. Reference is made only to information that was not included in paragraphs 212-225 of the interim report of the Coordinator (E/CN.4/1994/AC.4/TM.4/2).

55. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina presented a list of activities developed during 1993 promoting productive development and health among indigenous communities. These projects include initiatives such as the

development of agricultural techniques, the promotion of traditional crafts, of wooden furniture for export and of house construction, the development of infrastructure and horticultural projects in rural areas, as well as the creation of an inter-agency commission to deal with indigenous problems. A workshop on indigenous women and health was organized and a programme for the strengthening of primary health care in indigenous communities was developed to eradicate cholera from indigenous areas.

56. The Government of Botswana informed the Secretariat about its efforts to provide basic infrastructure and better living conditions for Botswana's indigenous peoples through the Programme for the Development of Remote Areas. One of the goals of the Programme was to achieve the integration of indigenous peoples living in the remote areas into the mainstream national society. In 1993, the Government held a national conference in which many indigenous people participated. A regional conference was organized to discuss development strategies that would reflect the needs and aspirations of the indigenous people. Some pending issues for the Botswana indigenous peoples are the protection of their territorial rights and the launching of programmes to generate jobs and incomes in the indigenous areas.

57. The Government of Brazil reported on the progress made in 1993 in the demarcation of indigenous territories and the introduction of legislation about the status of Brazil indigenous people. Two hundred and seventy-two indigenous areas were now demarcated. Some principles of ILO Convention 169 were included in the national legislation, as well as principles for the protection of the intellectual property rights of indigenous communities. The Government had implemented a policy for the preservation of indigenous territories, languages and cultures and promoted the participation of indigenous people in decision-making for questions of concern to them. An inter-agency commission had been created, including governmental and non-governmental representatives, to consider programmes and projects in the areas of environmental protection, health and productive activities. The Commission would continue its functions during the forthcoming Decade, under the coordination of the Indian National Foundation (FUNAI).

58. The final report on Canadian activities for the International Year was prepared by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND), in cooperation with other federal departments, provincial and territorial governments, and Aboriginal organizations. The Federal Government of Canada contributed 90,000 Canadian dollars to the Voluntary Fund for the International Year and encouraged provincial and territorial governments to promote the Year in their regions. The Year was opened with a ceremony at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa, and other events took place across the country. Many federal departments and provinces elaborated promotional materials, including logos, letterheads, brochures, special calendars and posters. A three-day traditional gathering of First Peoples was held on Victoria Island. In May, the Aboriginal Awareness Week was celebrated with speeches by elders, panel discussions on Aboriginal issues and several cultural awareness activities. Some major gatherings during the Year were "The Voice of the Land is our Language", a meeting of elders and others to discuss traditional knowledge and its preservation, the First Nations Women's Business Conference, the Indigenous Peoples and Health Workshop organized by the Pan-American Health Organization,

the "Beyond Survival" Conference and the third Inter-American Indigenous Congress on Natural Resources and the Environment. Exhibits, festivals and displays were held and the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards recognized the achievements of 13 Aboriginal Canadians in various disciplines. Printed and audio-visual materials enhanced Aboriginal awareness of their own culture and contribution to Canadian society and enlightened non-Aboriginal Canadians about the needs of Aboriginal peoples. Recruitment and training programmes were developed to give Aboriginal peoples greater opportunity and involvement in the Canadian workforce, and promotional activities abroad were implemented to increase international cooperation and understanding about Canadian indigenous peoples. A major step in the achievement of autonomy by Canada's indigenous peoples was the signature, in May 1993, of the Nunavut Land Claim.

59. The Director of the Corporation of Indigenous Development of Chile indicated that despite the great mobilizing force developed by the different interested actors during 1993, the results of the Year had sometimes been insufficient because of difficulties in the diffusion and coordination of activities. An important achievement of the International Year in Chile was the approval of Law 19.253, which established fundamental rules for the promotion, protection and development of indigenous peoples. The National Corporation of Indigenous Development (CONADI) had been created to coordinate State action to respond to the needs and aspirations of the Chilean indigenous peoples.

60. The Government of Ecuador informed the Coordinator about the creation, in 1993, of the National Secretariat for Indigenous Affairs and Ethnic Minorities, whose goals were to support and enhance the indigenous and Afro-Ecuadorian cultures, to promote and coordinate development projects for indigenous communities, to identify, analyse and forward projects and initiatives of benefit to the indigenous peoples of Ecuador and to promote the protection and preservation of the environment.

61. The Estonian Government informed the Secretariat about its concerns for the maintenance of the identity of the Finno-Ugric peoples and for the promotion of their cultural environment. In 1993, a number of non-governmental organizations had been established in order to promote transboundary relations among different groups of the Finno-Ugric family. In cooperation with the Estonian Government, they had initiated events in the context of the International Year: a meeting of the Council of the Youth Association of the Finno-Ugric peoples, regional meetings of the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization, the Parnu International Visual Anthropology Festival and the Kinsman Days Festival.

62. The Greenland Home Rule Government and the Government of Denmark reported that, in 1993, all events and information relating to Greenland had been amplified and that the Inuit had acquired greater awareness of belonging to the world community of indigenous peoples. Informative seminars and events had taken place, involving indigenous peoples and non-governmental organizations in the planning and implementation of activities. The most outstanding achievement of the Year was the First Ministerial Conference of the Circumpolar Region, held in Nuuk, Greenland.

63. To commemorate the International Year, the Holy See had issued a publication, "Les peuples autochtones dans l'enseignement de Jean-Paul II",

which compiled the interventions of the Pope related to indigenous peoples. The book reproduced various talks between the Pope and representatives of indigenous communities all over the world and several peace appeals to the international community concerning indigenous peoples.

64. The Year was officially commemorated in Japan through the publication of pamphlets and posters. A series of exhibitions about the Ainu culture and traditions was organized and a project by the local government of Hokkaido was given support.

65. The Government of Norway reported that a committee had been appointed to make proposals and recommendations for the International Year, comprising representatives of different ministries and the Sami Assembly. The Committee had suggested that the main national theme for the Year should be to raise public awareness about the Sami people in particular and indigenous peoples in general. In 1993, a magazine entitled The Indigenous People of the World had been published and distributed to all secondary schools to inform children and young people in Norway about indigenous issues. Several activities had been undertaken to strengthen contacts between the Norwegian Sami and other indigenous peoples: art exhibitions, student exchange programmes and an international conference on traditional upbringing of children among indigenous peoples. Written and visual materials had also been published and distributed to raise public awareness about the Sami and other indigenous peoples.

66. The Government of the Philippines informed the Secretariat about the First Conference of Indigenous Asian Women and the Global Youth Earth-saving Summit, the two main events that had taken place in the country in 1993.

VIII. RESPONSE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

67. The General Assembly, in its resolution 46/128, requested the United Nations system to be actively involved in developing projects for the Year and, in its annex, recommended areas of cooperation. The present section provides some of the highlights of the activities of the United Nations system which were not included in paragraphs 226-240 of the Coordinator's interim report.

68. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) started a study on the importance of territory as a source of identity for indigenous peoples and on the basic social services appropriated to those peoples. The study will be distributed widely and will constitute a guideline for the definition of future policies. Its interim conclusions point to the need for a recognition of the indigenous concept of collective land property. The Centre also organized a seminar on "Housing for the indigenous people" jointly with the University of Queensland, Australia, in April 1993.

69. In 1994, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) carried out programmes of work in the area of indigenous knowledge related to the conservation and sustainable utilization of genetic resources through two forestry projects in Senegal and Burkina Faso and through an ongoing global programme to collect information on animal genetic resources. The FAO Commission on Plant Genetic Resources monitors the International Undertaking on

Plant Genetic Resources, which gives farmers and farming communities rights to share equitably the benefits derived from the germplasm and knowledge. A research programme to assess the social, economic and institutional development constraints affecting rural indigenous communities has also been implemented in selected developing countries, a nutrition intervention programme directed to vulnerable groups has been launched, and a regional symposium to discuss traditional management practices used by indigenous fishermen of the Indo-Pacific region organized. Finally, the Forests, Trees and People Programme involves activities to interact with indigenous people with the purpose of achieving a better understanding of their management practices as a basis for development strategies.

70. The United Nations Department of Public Information launched multi-media activities to raise public awareness about the Year and its objectives. These included the production of printed materials such as press kits, booklets, feature articles, posters and brochures in the official United Nations languages; facilitating media coverage of meetings; organizing press conferences, roundtables and briefings; producing radio programmes, films and exhibits and utilizing the resources of the 67 United Nations information centres and services (see paras. 83-100 of the interim report (E/CN.4/1994/AC.4/TM.4/2)).

71. On 12 May 1994, the Forty-seventh World Health Assembly, recalling the discussion on health and indigenous people which had taken place at the previous Assembly and concerned that due recognition should be given to the value of indigenous people's knowledge and expertise in traditional medicines and practices, approved resolution WHA47.27 on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. In that resolution, the Director-General of the World Health Organization was called upon to consider ways of promoting respect for, and maintenance of, indigenous knowledge, traditions and remedies and to ensure that the relevant projects undertaken by the organization were conducted in consultation with, and for the benefit of, indigenous people and communities.

IX. CONCLUSIONS

72. The aim of the International Year for the World's Indigenous People was to strengthen international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous communities. It may be argued that a 12-month period is not sufficient to achieve significant improvements in conditions in the areas of development, the environment, health, and human rights for peoples who have endured many decades, and sometimes centuries, of exploitation and marginalization. Furthermore, certain of the difficulties faced by indigenous peoples necessitate long-term investment in education, training and infrastructure whose benefits cannot be expected to be felt for many years. In part also, respect for the cultures of indigenous peoples depends upon a shift in understanding of the international community and the general public. The raising of awareness about indigenous peoples must be seen not as the task of a Year but as part of the ongoing and permanent process of education and public information about human rights and the urgent need to protect and strengthen cultural diversity.

73. Notwithstanding the above-mentioned qualifications, it is clear from the present report and the interim report presented to the Technical Meeting held in July 1994 that a number of important and positive changes have taken place. The international community, as a consequence of the International Year, is certainly better informed about indigenous peoples than it was before the Year began. Indigenous representatives have been invited to address the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the World Conference on Human Rights. The General Assembly has committed the Organization to a new and dynamic programme of action by proclaiming an International Decade of the World's Indigenous People; it has also recognized the need to develop more effective and wide-ranging international mechanisms for indigenous peoples by recommending that consideration be given to the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people within the United Nations system. The Economic and Social Council, in its decision 1994/247 of 22 July 1994, has also recommended that an indigenous people's unit be established within the Centre for Human Rights.

74. The United Nations system as a whole responded positively to the recommendations in the General Assembly resolutions related to the Year. Several specialized agencies, as requested by the General Assembly, appointed focal points for indigenous people and held consultations with indigenous representatives. It may be noted that many of the organizations in the United Nations system have cooperated with Governments over many years to implement projects for indigenous peoples and have developed expertise in their areas of competence. The International Year therefore provided an opportunity to review and strengthen this part of their work. However, in certain cases United Nations organizations and specialized agencies were not able to elaborate new programmes targeting indigenous peoples. This was partly because funds had already been allocated prior to the commencement of the International Year and partly because many projects in the development area require a longer implementation time-frame than one year. However, the contacts developed by United Nations agencies during the International Year with government departments responsible for indigenous affairs and indigenous communities, and the cooperation among agencies which has been fostered as a result of the Year, are a sound basis for the integrated Programme of Action for the International Decade which will be implemented during the period 1995-2004.

75. At the national level, it may be observed that the International Year had a mixed impact. While in some countries extensive programmes for the Year were developed in collaboration with indigenous people, in others there were very few commemorative events or public information programmes. The most common criticism made by indigenous people was that insufficient attention was paid to the International Year in certain countries. However, in those countries where activities were generously and enthusiastically supported, indigenous peoples considered that the Year had positive benefits not only for 1993 but for the years ahead.

76. Indigenous organizations appear to have taken full advantage of the International Year and made their own programmes to increase public awareness of their situation. In particular, numerous meetings, conferences and exchanges took place among indigenous peoples themselves which have led, perhaps inevitably, to the elaboration of demands upon the international community to do

more and to commit greater resources. It may be said that while the international community became more aware of the world's indigenous people in 1993, indigenous people learned more about the United Nations system and the opportunities that it offered once the complexities of its bureaucracy were mastered.

77. A certain disappointment was expressed by indigenous people about the lack of resources made available during the International Year. In particular, certain indigenous representatives have commented upon the low level of contributions to the Voluntary Fund for the International Year administered by the Coordinator. It may be noted, however, that international years, which are supported through voluntary contributions, do not normally receive substantial funding from Governments. Furthermore, the small-scale projects, workshops and meetings, as well as publications, which are supported by the Fund will have a long-term impact.

78. One of the lessons learned from the Year is that communication networks need to be strengthened, and a study on how best to spread information among indigenous peoples needs to be undertaken. The dissemination of information should preferably be in indigenous languages and presented in a way which may not always be in the conventional written form. Many indigenous organizations successfully use radio networks to reach their communities.

79. On the eve of the launch of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, it may be stated that the International Year played a critical role in alerting the wider public and preparing the United Nations for the programme of action for the next 10 years.

Annex I

SUMMARY OF POINTS AND SUGGESTIONS MADE DURING THE TECHNICAL MEETING, 9-11 MARCH 1992, AS CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM/8

I. Human rights

(Principal United Nations bodies or agency concerned: Commission on Human Rights, treaty bodies, Working Group on Indigenous Populations, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, International Labour Organization and regional human rights organizations)

1. The Subcommission should seek to adopt the declaration on indigenous rights in 1993.

2. Governments should give particular attention to the ratification of ILO Convention 169 in 1993.

3. Ratification and implementation of other international instruments of relevance to indigenous people, such as the Human Rights Covenants, the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

4. Invite the treaty bodies to pay adequate attention in their guidelines and examination of State parties' reports to the situation of indigenous people and encourage coordination between these bodies.

5. Encourage the development of an Organization of American States (OAS) instrument on indigenous rights and of other regional instruments and arrangements.

6. Encourage the development of adequate national standards for indigenous peoples.

7. Undertake research on indigenous legal systems and their interaction with other legal systems.

8. Consider indigenous rights at the World Conference on Human Rights.

9. The representative status of indigenous peoples, including their role in evaluating United Nations system programmes affecting them, should be considered by the Working Group on Indigenous Populations.

10. Establish special programmes for the protection of the rights of indigenous women and children.

II. Development

(Principal United Nations bodies or agencies concerned: Department of Economic and Social Development, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, ILO, World Bank, International Fund for Agricultural Development)

1. Pursue a participatory approach to development taking full account of the needs and desires of indigenous peoples.

2. Establish mechanisms for indigenous participation in planning, implementation and evaluation of international assistance.

3. Consider how the United Nations system as a whole, together with national development agencies, can develop integrated programmes for indigenous peoples.

4. Respect indigenous systems of land tenure and resource management, including further research on these questions.

5. Protect habitats of indigenous peoples.

6. Respect indigenous methods of environmental protection.

7. Draw on indigenous skills of resource management, ensuring that the indigenous people benefit fully from their contributions.

8. Encourage the development of common development guidelines among international development agencies.

9. Ensure that the principles and guidelines established in the area of development are applied for the benefit of all indigenous people, including those in developed countries.

10. Establish development programmes which take account of the needs of indigenous women.

11. Ensure that non-governmental organizations working with indigenous people respect international norms and indigenous cultures.

III. Education and culture

(Principal United Nations agency concerned: UNESCO)

1. Ensure that educational curricula take full account of indigenous experiences.

2. Develop programmes that ensure equal access to education, vocational training and adult education.

3. Develop programmes for bilingual or multilingual education, including training for teachers.

4. Ensure protection and development of indigenous languages.

5. Recognition and protection of indigenous cultural patrimony at the national level.

6. Develop an international system for the protection of indigenous patrimony.

7. Take account of experiences emerging from indigenous educational conferences and encourage development of indigenous models of education.

8. Promote indigenous cultural manifestations.

9. Develop youth and sports programmes for indigenous people.

10. Promote contacts among indigenous people across borders, as well as exchange among different indigenous cultures.

IV. Health

(Principal United Nations body or agency concerned: UNICEF, World Health Organization)

1. Preserve traditional medicines and healing places.

2. Studies and programmes on health of indigenous people.

3. Research and programmes for prevention of drug and alcohol abuse and suicide of indigenous people.

4. Ensure access to health care, including the establishment of adequate health centres acceptable to those concerned and training of personnel.

5. Emphasize the importance of preventive medicine.

V. Self-management and self-government

(Principal United Nations bodies concerned: Working Group on Indigenous Populations, Commission on Human Rights)

1. Encourage the preservation or development, as appropriate, of indigenous institutions.

2. Research into systems of indigenous self-management and self-government.

VI. Public events and information

(Principal United Nations bodies concerned: Centre for Human Rights, Department of Public Information)

1. Ensure wide exposure for opening ceremonies for the Year and full indigenous participation.

2. The Working Group on Indigenous Populations should consider public information and events at its eleventh session.

3. Arrange wide publicity in non-indigenous as well as indigenous communities for activities under the Year.

4. Ensure indigenous participation in information activities of the Year.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RECONVENED TECHNICAL MEETING, 3-5 AUGUST 1992; SUMMARIES OF DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS PREPARED BY THE VICE-CHAIRPERSONS, AS CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM.2/3

1. A draft text was circulated for comment. The Chairperson explained that that document, and the summaries prepared by the Vice-Chairpersons which would form the annex, would not need to be approved or adopted. It was intended that discussion on this agenda item would provide suggestions for the guidance of the Coordinator. The Chairperson encouraged delegations to send further suggestions to the Secretariat.

A. Conclusions

2. The Technical Meeting welcomed the decision to reconvene a meeting on the Year to allow further exchange of ideas on the planning and implementation of activities for the Year among indigenous peoples, Governments, United Nations agencies, the specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and other interested parties.

3. The Technical Meeting took note of document E/CN.4/1992/AC.4/TM.2/2 containing information about the activities contemplated for the Year and the draft guidelines for projects prepared by the Secretariat. The note was considered a useful input for the activities of the Year.

4. The Technical Meeting welcomed the establishment by the Coordinator of a small team of indigenous administrators to assist him during the Year and expressed appreciation to the indigenous peoples' organizations and Governments which had provided assistance.

5. The Technical Meeting reaffirmed its support for the aims of the Year as contained in General Assembly resolution 46/128 and in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly (A/46/543), which were referred to in the opening statement of the Coordinator for the International Year.

6. The Technical Meeting emphasized that projects undertaken in conformity with the objectives of the Year should benefit indigenous peoples and communities directly and that public information activities should be aimed at raising world-wide understanding of the cultures and situations of indigenous peoples.

7. The Technical Meeting noted the suggestion that the Coordinator could consider reconvening the Technical Meeting for a third session prior to the opening of the International Year to allow continuing dialogue among the interested parties.

8. The Technical Meeting noted the summaries prepared by the Vice-Chairpersons contained in annex I to its report which, together with the suggestions made at the first Technical Meeting, could assist the Coordinator in his work for the Year as well as others preparing activities for the Year.

9. The Technical Meeting took note of the well-elaborated projects and initiatives which were proposed at the Meeting.

B. Recommendations

10. The Technical Meeting recommended that the Coordinator give priority to projects directly benefiting indigenous peoples, primarily but not exclusively in developing countries.

11. The Technical Meeting recommended that the Coordinator supplement the public information activities carried out by the Department of Public Information with activities as suggested by the Meeting and the note by the secretariat, with a view to increasing awareness in the media and the general public about the situations and cultures of indigenous peoples.

12. The Technical Meeting recommended that the Coordinator include indigenous persons from Latin America and Asia in the team of indigenous administrators assisting him in the International Year.

13. The Technical Meeting recommended that the Coordinator provide full support to the staff responsible for coordinating activities for the Year, in particular the team of indigenous administrators, including office space and furniture, computers, and other infrastructural support, to allow them to carry out their work effectively.

14. The Technical Meeting recommended that the advisory group established to assist the Coordinator in selecting projects to be assisted under the Voluntary Fund for the International Year for the World's Indigenous People include the indigenous administrators assisting him during the Year.

15. The Technical Meeting recommended that at the end of the Year the Coordinator give an account and short description of the projects that had been supported through the Voluntary Fund.

16. The Technical Meeting recommended that the Coordinator distribute the report of the Meeting to all Governments, intergovernmental and indigenous peoples' organizations and non-governmental organizations, and that he request information on the activities they were carrying out in conformity with the Year's objectives and suggestions on further activities that could be undertaken.

17. The Technical Meeting recommended that the Coordinator give special priority to projects which protect and promote the human rights of indigenous peoples.

18. The Technical Meeting recommended that the Coordinator use the funds available to him in the Voluntary Fund for the Year in accordance with the suggestions and guidelines set out by the Meeting. The Coordinator should, furthermore, encourage other bodies, including Governments, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and other appropriate institutions, to supplement those activities with their own funds and serve as a catalyst for initiatives and projects.

19. The Technical Meeting recommended that each intergovernmental organization find ways to involve indigenous peoples in a permanent dialogue.

SUMMARIES OF DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS PREPARED BY THE VICE-CHAIRPERSONS

Agenda item 4: Aims of special projects to be implemented during 1993

1. To ensure that indigenous peoples and Governments work as equal partners in dignity and mutual respect in all matters concerning indigenous peoples and that these peoples can consider and execute their own projects, in particular in the participation, planning, management, execution and evaluation of projects to be carried out in the International Year for the World's Indigenous People.

2. To eliminate all forms of racism against all indigenous peoples, including policies of assimilation, paternalism, protectionism and integrationism applying to indigenous peoples.

3. To promote the solidarity of all indigenous peoples of the world.

4. To invite Governments to consider indigenous peoples' projects as priorities and also to give priority to governmental projects directed towards indigenous peoples.

5. To promote the opening of spaces and the creation of mechanisms for indigenous peoples at all levels, in particular for the full respect and effective guarantees of the human rights of indigenous peoples.

6. To promote action amongst Governments to protect and demarcate the communal lands and territories of indigenous peoples.

7. To promote the assistance of all governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental agencies for the realization of the International Year for the World's Indigenous People.

8. To promote actions to eliminate unequal treatment of indigenous peoples at all levels in national and international legal instruments.

9. To promote the establishment of closer relationships and better understanding between human rights bodies, including the secretariats and indigenous peoples.

10. To invite the specialized agencies of the United Nations, including the Committee on Decolonization, to participate in the International Year and to take appropriate actions in their respective fields of competence.

Suggested projects

1. Consider ways to arrange for indigenous health experts to address the World Health Organization.

2. To have projects target particular groups among indigenous peoples such as women, children, the aged and the infirm during the International Year.

3. To emphasize projects which constitute a step towards autonomy for indigenous peoples.

4. To convene a conference for indigenous peoples and African peoples.

5. To conduct activities which will increase public awareness and raise consciousness about indigenous peoples and their cultures.

6. To conduct activities to promote the natural and environmental health of indigenous peoples and activities to enhance their employment and educational opportunities.

Suggested recommendations

1. Consider the establishment of a committee of indigenous health experts within the World Health Organization.

2. Consider the establishment of a centre for indigenous health within the World Health Organization.

3. Consider the publication by the World Health Organization of an annual report on indigenous health.

4. The establishment of an administrative apparatus for reviewing projects which ensures the input of indigenous peoples.

5. To develop a campaign during the International Year to examine the situation of indigenous peoples held in prisons, with a view to their release.

6. To emphasize projects which will be of long-term and sustainable benefit to indigenous peoples.

7. To develop means by which indigenous peoples can have full access to technology and investment.

8. To promote the inclusion of indigenous peoples' concerns in the World Conference on Human Rights.

9. To conduct activities, programmes and projects that maximize control and management by indigenous peoples.

Agenda item 5: Consideration of projects for the International Year

Objective

Highlight projects which benefit indigenous peoples in the long term and which are sustainable.

Develop programmes so that indigenous peoples have full access to technology and investment without forgetting the existence of traditional technology.

1. With the full participation of indigenous peoples, the creation of a United Nations organism to administer the International Year, including a permanent council of indigenous peoples which promotes access to the forums that exist in the United Nations.

2. Organize a conference of cultural exchange in which indigenous peoples from all over the world (Americas, Asia, Europe, Africa, Oceania) may participate.

3. Ensure the implementation of national legal provisions which respect the indigenous identity and indigenous rights and promote the promulgation of similar laws in those States in which appropriate national legislation does not yet exist.

4. Implement projects to stimulate the commercialization, at reasonable prices, of the produce of indigenous peoples at the national, regional and international levels.

5. From 1993, the publication of an annual report by the United Nations on the state of the human rights of indigenous peoples which would also contain historical facts, geographical location of indigenous populations, maps and photographs.

6. The Working Group on Indigenous Populations should visit areas where indigenous peoples live and which are subjected to armed internal conflict.

7. As a priority, information about the International Year should be distributed throughout the entire international community and in particular among indigenous peoples.

8. The creation of an independent judicial committee in Guatemala made up of indigenous peoples and human rights organizations to monitor the human rights situation of indigenous peoples in that country.

9. The United Nations should design a programme to collect sufficient funds to satisfy the varied demands of indigenous peoples during the International Year and for activities in the long term.

10. Publicize the texts of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the other international instruments in indigenous communities to guarantee respect for the personal and cultural dignity of indigenous peoples.

11. Promote respect for ceremonial sites and for the historical significance of those sites to indigenous peoples and guarantee unrestricted access to those sites and control over them, in accordance with traditional customs, to indigenous peoples.

12. Convene a congress of indigenous intellectuals on the American continent and in any other region which may desire it.

13. Develop a campaign during the International Year which examines the situation of members of indigenous populations who are in prison, with the aim of obtaining their freedom.

14. Carry out an open conference on the rights of indigenous peoples to self-determination in accordance with international law.

15. The holding of regional seminars, with the participation of representatives of indigenous peoples, on themes related to the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination.

16. Promote the ratification of ILO Convention 169.

17. Consideration should be given to the creation of a centre for indigenous health within the World Health Organization, to be staffed by indigenous specialists in the field of traditional medicine. WHO should consider the publication of an annual report on indigenous health.

18. Promote projects on natural medicine as practised by indigenous peoples and, in this manner, promote the contribution of such medicine to science in general and to medicine in particular.

19. Give emphasis to those projects which generate income, investment, reciprocal transfer of technology and training as the first step towards autonomy for indigenous people.

20. Establish spaces to enable interchanges between indigenous peoples' media organizations and develop programmes to increase the use of the media among indigenous peoples.

21. The question of the human rights of indigenous peoples should be included in the agenda of the World Conference on Human Rights.

22. Activities which favour maximum control and self-administration by indigenous peoples should be realized by indigenous peoples.

23. Organize activities which promote natural health and maintenance of a healthy environment. Develop and expand programmes of education aimed at the general population in relation to natural medicine.

24. Implement specialized programmes to satisfy the demands of refugees and other displaced indigenous peoples.

25. Promote different linguistic projects, controlled by indigenous people themselves, with the aim of documenting the languages of indigenous peoples.

Agenda item 6: Public information activities

1. The promotion and dissemination of information in the Nordic and Russian regions about indigenous peoples. The encouragement of the provision of materials and information to the media about the living conditions and special knowledge of the indigenous peoples, with their consent.

2. Promote the exchange of research and ideas targeting, in particular, the human rights research and assistance to community groups about decision-making.

3. Promote a study or studies on economic, social and legal matters having an impact on indigenous peoples.

4. Promote the education of indigenous women, especially women who are victims of family violence, to participate in national and international forums on, in particular, family violence.

5. Promote the employment of indigenous lawyers in human rights bodies.

6. Specific projects outlined by the representative of the "Television Trust for the Environment". Its campaign is designed to involve indigenous peoples in a multi-media package. The project has been submitted to the Centre for Human Rights.

7. A number of projects outlined by the representative of the Government of New Zealand in the hope of a long-lasting impact and to heighten awareness of the diverse realities of indigenous peoples.

8. The "In the Spirit of Human Rights" project designed to enable local groups that are undertaking projects emphasizing studies on human rights; this project has the advantage of being income-generating.

9. The launch of the International Year should promote the substance of what is to be said, not promote individuals, and should have an impact upon and extend a challenge to the United Nations to stand firm on human rights and fundamental freedoms.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RECONVENED TECHNICAL MEETING ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, 14-16 JULY 1993, AS CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT E/CN.4/1994/86

During the discussion on item 7, the need to disseminate information was stressed, as was the need for more statistical information about indigenous peoples to assist funding bodies in planning programmes for them.

The need for the evaluation meeting was seen as essential, and the representative of the Government of Canada encouraged participants to consider holding it either before or after the 1994 session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, to take advantage of the number of indigenous peoples who would be present in Geneva at that time. The Canadian contribution to that meeting was intended to assist delegations from developing countries to attend. It was envisaged that planning for the Decade would be addressed at that meeting.

The following conclusions and recommendations were adopted:

The Technical Meeting

1. Reaffirms that the aims of the International Year are to strengthen international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous communities in the areas, among others, of human rights, the environment, development, education and health;

2. Reaffirms that the International Year is based upon the theme of "A new partnership" and that indigenous people should be involved in the planning, implementation and evaluation of projects affecting them;

3. Reaffirms that the United Nations system as a whole should look for ways and means of enhancing its operational programmes and technical assistance to indigenous people so that improvements can be achieved in 1993 and beyond;

4. Expresses appreciation to those Governments, United Nations organizations, non-governmental and indigenous people's organizations and indigenous people who are supporting the International Year in practical ways at the national and international levels;

5. Notes with regret that many Governments, United Nations organizations and non-governmental organizations have not supported local or national initiatives or contributed to the success of the International Year;

6. Also notes with regret that many indigenous people in the world are not informed about the International Year;

7. Expresses concern that the Technical Meeting was not well attended by Governments, United Nations organizations and indigenous representatives;

8. Acknowledges that the International Year has helped to increase public awareness of the plight of indigenous people and believes that the problems faced by indigenous people continue to require attention;

Coordination within the United Nations system

9. Expresses its appreciation to the Coordinator for the International Year, and to the secretariat of indigenous administrators established to assist him, for the work undertaken to date;

10. Requests strengthening of the infrastructure, such as adequate office space, telefax and other essential equipment, to assist the secretariat for the International Year to carry out its tasks;

11. Underlines the importance of continuing and effective mechanisms of communication between the Coordinator and the secretariat and United Nations organizations and specialized agencies;

12. Urges the Coordinator to convey to relevant United Nations organizations and agencies without delay proposals for the International Year which have not been funded from the Voluntary Fund and which would fall within the competence of those agencies;

13. Requests the Coordinator to write to all executive heads of United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, as well as regional bodies, to urge them to appoint focal points for indigenous people, in cooperation with indigenous organizations, to develop special programmes and support projects of indigenous peoples in their areas of competence, if they have not done so;

14. Also requests the Coordinator in his letter to encourage United Nations organizations and agencies to examine carefully the extent to which project proposals might be funded from within existing programmes and resources and at the same time to examine, in consultation with indigenous peoples, how existing programmes might be utilized or extended to take particular account of the needs and aspirations of indigenous people;

15. Further requests the Coordinator in his letter to request information about possible grants or technical assistance that might be available to indigenous people, including guidelines for applying for them, so that he can circulate this information to all indigenous peoples' organizations;

16. Recommends that the Coordinator organize the evaluation meeting referred to in General Assembly resolution 46/128, following consultation with the interested parties;

17. Requests that the Coordinator write to all Governments to inform them of the results of the Technical Meeting and, in particular, to draw their attention to the need for action at the governing bodies of United Nations organizations and specialized agencies in order to coordinate international cooperation for the purpose of enhancing the situation of indigenous people;

Health

18. Recommends that the Director-General of the World Health Organization appoint a focal point for indigenous people's health issues;

19. Recommends that the Centre for Human Rights, in cooperation with the World Health Organization and its identified focal point, using existing resources and the Voluntary Fund for the International Year, convene in Geneva before the end of the International Year a meeting of indigenous persons versed in traditional medicines and indigenous health professionals to advise on their health status and health plans for the following decade. The report of the meeting should be made available to the 1994 World Health Assembly;

Dissemination of information

20. Recommends that the Coordinator send appropriate written information about international instruments and human rights procedures to all indigenous people;

21. Recommends that the Coordinator contact the United Nations regional commissions and the Governments concerned to explore ways and means by which information on human rights and the International Year can reach indigenous people, especially those most vulnerable, and that the Coordinator, in cooperation with the Department of Public Information, explore how appropriate human rights material can be prepared in indigenous languages;

Decade

In the context of building on the work of the International Year for the World's Indigenous People, the reconvened Technical Meeting, drawing on experiences gained in the course of the first part of the International Year

22. Notes with concern that the objectives of the Year have not so far been fully achieved, due to inadequate time, resources and planning, and notes that the full realization of the objectives of the Year requires a longer period than one year;

23. Notes with satisfaction and supports the recommendation of the World Conference on Human Rights that the General Assembly proclaim an international decade of the world's indigenous people and that within the framework of the decade consideration be given to the establishment of a permanent forum within the United Nations system to address indigenous issues, and emphasizes the need for the decade to be adequately funded and planned and for all aspects of the decade to be elaborated in partnership with indigenous people;

24. Invites the General Assembly to take action on this recommendation as a matter of urgency at its forty-eighth session;

The Meeting, drawing again on experiences gained in the course of the first part of the International Year

25. Emphasizes that in declaring a decade of the world's indigenous people consideration should be given to:

(a) The need for committed and sustained international, regional and national efforts to ensure its success;

(b) The need for planning and implementation of all aspects of the decade, including its action-oriented programmes, to be elaborated in partnership with indigenous people;

(c) The importance of concerted, system-wide action by the United Nations, including the specialized agencies and other bodies, in implementing the decade and, in this regard, the development of an inter-agency mechanism for high-level coordination; the establishment of viable focal points within United Nations organizations and specialized agencies; the need for the governing bodies of the United Nations organizations to be called upon to prepare specific programmes for the implementation of the decade and the need for the preparation of data on indigenous people;

(d) The necessity for adequate resources for the decade and, in particular, that adequate resources are made available to enable indigenous people to participate in both the preparatory and implementation phases of the decade, and that the secretariat of the decade be adequately funded to enable it to facilitate both preparations and implementation of the decade;

(e) The importance of building into the planning for the international decade those aspects of the action plan of the International Year which constitute "unfinished business", such as the international trade fair. Such activities are critically important for the promotion of networks of exchange;

(f) Exploring the desirability of regional consultations with indigenous people concerning preparations for the decade;

26. Recommends that the principles which guide the United Nations and its activities during the international decade should be drawn from the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments;

Financial provisions

27. Welcomes the contribution made by Governments to the Voluntary Fund for the International Year, and calls on all Governments, in particular those which have not yet made such contributions, to consider doing so as a matter of urgency;

28. Recommends that a report be sent to Governments on what funds have been received and how they have been used in order to encourage further contributions;

29. Recommends that Governments, as a way of supporting the International Year, consider providing direct financial assistance for projects and activities of indigenous people, in particular in developing countries. For this purpose, Governments should consider changing their infrastructure to enable them to assist and support indigenous people in a flexible manner.

Annex II

VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Income, 31 August 1994*

Donor	Amount in US dollars
Governments	
Australia	36 040.00
Canada	3 814.00
	64 846.25
Denmark	75 000.00
Dominica	1 000.00
France	26 970.00
Greece	3 000.00
Japan	50 000.00
Luxembourg	5 861.84
Netherlands	131 368.07
New Zealand	8 083.74
	4 626.50
Norway	50 000.00
	44 385.00
	4 973.48
	23 534.48
Sweden	44 485.63
Switzerland	34 829.93
Subtotal	612 818.92
Others	
Shimin Gaikou	500.00
Marymont College	100.00
Mesa Redonda	100.00
Oddfellows	134.00
Children's World	200.00
Oliver Gilzean	76 621.40
UN Staff Gala	20 000.00
Abdelhak Chaieb	517.24
Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio	1 228.73
Subtotal	99 401.37
Total contributions	712 220.29

* Estimates of the Centre for Human Rights.

Expenditures and commitments as at 31 August 1994

Expenditure/commitments	Amount in US dollars
Grants to indigenous peoples for projects:	
37 projects valued at	331 079.00
United Nations Goodwill Ambassador Mrs. Rigoberta Menchú Tum	
Second Summit Oaxtepec	43 000.00
Subtotal	374 079.00
Staff and travel expenses:	
Associate expert from Norway for six months	39 300.00
Extension of three months	20 850.00
Participation of a representative of the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights in the Oaxtepec meeting	4 986.00
Subtotal	65 136.00
Meetings	
Arctic/Siberia Consultation	
Travel and staff	3 750.00
Consultant	6 450.00
Grant for the regional meeting in Cochabamba	10 000.00
Participation in the Technical Meeting for the planning of the Decade of the 43 indigenous representatives financed by the Voluntary Fund	22 575.00
Subtotal	42 775.00
Informational and promotional activities	
Inauguration of the Year - cultural evening	3 375.00
Photographs of Working Group 1993 and distribution	968.00
Publication of book of speeches: "Voices of the Earth" (in preparation)	15 000.00
Newsletter (in preparation)	5 000.00
Subtotal	24 343.00
TOTAL	506 333.00
Programme support costs 13%	65 824.00
Total expenditure/commitments	572 157.00

Summary of contributions and expenditure/ commitments as at 31 August 1994

Total contributions	712 220
Expenditure/commitments	572 157
Balance including 15 per cent reserve in accordance with Financial Rules and Regulations	140 063

Notes

Further contributions in cash and kind were made by some Governments, as follows:

1. The Government of Australia and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission assisted the Coordinator by providing an indigenous staff member for two years as a consultant, and a computer and printer.

2. The Government of Denmark and the Greenland Home Rule Government assisted by providing an indigenous staff member for one year.

3. The Government of Norway provided a computer and printer.